This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system having an accommodation ~~accomodation~~ device for plate-shaped microcomponents (7) and having a plurality of line connections (8, 9, 16) which can be connected to the microcomponent (7), wherein ~~characterised in that~~

the microcomponent (7) and the line connections (8, 9, 16) can be pressed against one another by ~~means of~~ a lifting device (6),

the accommodation device has electrical and fluid line connections (8, 9) for connection to the microcomponent (7),

the fluid line connections (9) each have a hollow ram (10),

the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections has a concentrically arranged sealing ring (11) around its aperture facing the accommodated microcomponent (7),

the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections is axially movable relative to the accommodation device and spring-mounted, and

the electrical line connections (8) have spring-mounted electrical contacts (12).

2. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the microcomponent (7) can be pressed against the line connections (8, 9, 16) by ~~means of~~ a lifting device (6).

3. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the line connections (8, 9, 16) can be pressed against the microcomponent (7) by ~~means of~~ a lifting device (6).

4. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the lifting device (6) can be actuated manually by ~~means of~~ a cam, spindle or knee-lever mechanism.

5. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the lifting device (6) can be actu-

ated by ~~means of~~ a controllable pneumatic cylinder, an electrically driven scissor jack or an electric spindle drive.

6. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the microcomponent connection system (1) has a connection block (2) with line connections (8, 9, 16) passed through, and the microcomponent (7) can be pressed in the direction of the connection block (2) by ~~means of~~ the lifting device (6).

7. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 4, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the microcomponent (7) accommodated in the accommodation ~~accomodation~~ device can be positioned by ~~means of~~ a frame (3) matched to the dimensions of the microcomponent (7).

8. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 5, wherein the microcomponent connection system (1) has a connection block (2) with line connections (8, 9, 16) passed through and the microcomponent (7) accommodated in the accommodation device can be positioned by a frame (3) matched to the dimensions of the microcomponent (7), and wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the connection block (2), the frame (3) and the lifting device (6) form a slot open on one side in which the microcomponent (7) can be accommodated.

9. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a coding of the microcomponent connection system (1) enables the alignment of accommodated ~~accomodated~~ microcomponents (7) matched thereto to be determined.

10. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 7, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the microcomponent (7) has a recess, and the frame (3) of the microcomponent connection system (1) has a projection matched to the recess.

11-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the electrical line connections (8) have ~~sprung~~ elastic or springy electrical contacts (12).

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Microcomponent connection system according to Claim 14, characterised in that the~~ A microcomponent connection system having an accommodation device for plate-shaped microcomponents (7) and having a plurality of line connections (8, 9, 16) which can be connected to the microcomponent (7), wherein

the microcomponent (7) and the line connections (8, 9, 16) can be pressed against one another by a lifting device (6),

the accommodation device has electrical and fluid line connections (8, 9) for connection to the microcomponent (7),

the fluid line connections (9) each have a hollow ram (10),

the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections has a concentrically arranged sealing ring (11) around its aperture facing the accommodated microcomponent (7),

the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections is axially movable relative to the accommodation device and spring-mounted, and

the electrical line connections (8) have spring-mounted electrical contacts (12), which are ~~designed as~~ projecting, electrically conducting, spring-loaded telescope contacts.

18. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the accommodation ~~accomodation~~ device has optical line connections (16) for connection to the microcomponent (7).

19. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the optical line connections (16) each have a hollow ram (10).

20. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 19 ~~18~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the hollow ram (10) of the

optical line connections has a concentrically arranged sealing ring (11) around its aperture facing the accommodated microcomponent (7).

21. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 19 ~~1~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the hollow ram (10) of the optical line connections is axially movable and spring-mounted.

22. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections has a cone (21) at its end facing the accommodated microcomponent (7).

23. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 22, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the hollow ram (10) of the fluid line connections has a cone (21) of elastic material.

24. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ an optical line connection (16) projects over a channel section (18) of the microcomponent (7) on opposite sides.

25. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a reflection layer (20) is arranged in the region of a channel section (18) on the opposite side of an optical line connection (16).

26. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a light source is arranged in the region of a channel section (18) on the opposite side of an optical line connection (16).

27. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ an optical line connection (16) projects over a channel section (18) of the microcomponent (7) on opposite sides in such a way that an optical signal can be transferred from one side of the optical line connection (16) through the channel section (18) to the other side of the optical line connection (16).

28. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the lifting device (6) has a support plate (6a) for the microcomponent, and the temperature of the support plate (6a) can be controlled by ~~means of~~ heating and/or cooling devices.

29. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ additional sensor elements, control elements or pneumatic line connections are integrated in the microcomponent connection system (1).

30. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ frits or membranes are arranged in the fluid (9) and/or pneumatic line connections.

31. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a plurality of microcomponents (7) can be accommodated simultaneously and can each be connected in parallel or series to associated line connections (8, 9, 16).

32. (Currently Amended) A microcomponent ~~Microcomponent~~ connection system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a plurality of line connections (8, 9, 16) are connected to one another through connecting lines.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for carrying out microfluid-controlled chemical reactions, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for carrying out electrophoretic separations and analyses of samples, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for carrying out isotachophoretic separations and analyses of samples, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for carrying out polymerase chain reactions (PCR reactions) in samples, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for the distribution of sample material over a plurality of microcomponents, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.

38. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a microcomponent connection system according to Claim 1~~ In a method for the collection of separated fractions of sample material after a chromatographic separation, wherein the improvement is that the method is carried out by a microcomponent connection system according to claim 1.